

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUPPLEMENT TO

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT SED Politburo West German

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1. At a meeting of the SED Politburo [REDACTED] the problem of improving Party work in Western Germany was considered. The SED had expected that the SPD would be the leading party in the West German government and had based its propaganda on this premise. The fact that the SPD has not joined the government forces the SED to change its approach. The SPD will no longer be labeled capitalistic; instead every effort will be made to stress the common Marxian foundation of SED and SPD.
2. Walter Ulbricht presented some factors which it is hoped will be favorable to SED plans. The situation in Berlin is expected to become more tranquil and interzonal trade on a large scale will tend to soothe ruffled feelings. As a result the SPD will gradually lose its strongest propaganda point against the USSR and the SPD will be compelled to make common front with the Party against the capitalists.

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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.
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